

Policy on Collaborative Activities

IQN Path projects are collaborative activities, thus a balance among the inputs from the several providers and the return that each of them can expect from their collaboration is to be defined.

Contributing to a research programme involves the provision of scientific knowledge, the collection and dissemination of information, the respect of the given timeline, the respect of the policies, and the provision of organisational and administrative support. On the other hand, in return of the provided work, members can have access to economical and coordinating resources provided by or through IQN Path, scientific recognition and visibility in the outputs.

The cooperation by all partners is defined by Research Agreements that outline the legal implications of the cooperation, and include the confidentiality terms, the privacy policy, the intellectual property policy, the publication policy, and the competition law policy statement, which all remain valid and complement this policy on collaborative activities.

Although inevitably some of the participating members are able to participate with a higher level of activities or resources, IQN Path wishes to define some minimal requirements that have to be met throughout the development of the project in order to be granted the continuation in the project and, finally, the recognition as a participating member.

The minimal requirements can be specified on a project-by-project basis. However, in general terms, it is expected that the participating organisations deliver the following tasks:

1. All partners should attend project meetings by the principal representative or his/her delegated deputy. Attendance to at least 50% of scheduled meetings is required.
2. All partners should contribute in a substantive way to the project and, in the case of EQA projects (development and testing of new materials, enrolment of laboratories, collaboration in drafting and reviewing documents, etc.).
3. All partners should deliver the assigned tasks within the given timeframe.
4. All partners should contribute to the preparation of the report and the publications, and/or any other outputs.
5. The leading member manages the data and the final report. Publication of data in peer-reviewed journals is essential to give visibility to IQN Path. Final publication is expected to be submitted no later than 6 months after the conclusion of the project. Thereafter, the data is to be released to the other participating partners who will be entitled to edit the publication and organise any other outputs

In case a partner fails to meet and maintain the minimal requirements, a notice will be sent by email by the IQN Path Director.

An adequate length of time shall be given to the member to remedy the failing action. When that time has elapsed, the member will no longer collaborate in the project and have no rights to claim the status of a cooperating partner in the report/s, publications or any other outputs.

NN/LDB/CM 01.04.2021
Approved by the Board 19.04.2021
Presented at the GA 06.09.2021